

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A foldable loop assembly comprising at least four links, each said link having a first ~~geared end~~ with a gear for defining a rotational axis line and a second ~~geared end~~ with a gear for defining a rotational axis line;

wherein said gear of said first ~~geared end~~ of any one of said links is rotatably engaged to said gear of said second ~~geared end~~ of another of said links in order to define four pairs of rotatably engaged ~~geared-ends~~ gears such that said first ~~geared end~~ axis line and said second ~~geared end~~ axis line of each said pair of engaged ~~gear-ends~~ gears lie in a single plane for any rotational positions thereof;

wherein each pair of engaged ~~gear-ends~~ gears defines a vector which is orthogonal in direction to the single plane in which said axis lines of said pair of engaged ~~gear-ends~~ gears lie;

wherein the vector defined by any of said ~~engaged-gear-end~~ pairs of engaged gears and the vector defined by any other ~~engaged-gear-end~~ pair of engaged gears together define an angle which remains constant in any folded condition of said assembly.

2. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said ~~geared-ends~~ gears comprises at least one beveled gear.

3. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said pairs of engaged gear-ends gears is retained within a hub element.
4. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 3, wherein each said hub element includes a slot through which said link depending from the gear end retained therewithin rotatably extends.
5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, further including at least one covering element selectively attached to at least one of said links.
6. (Original) The assembly of claim 5, wherein said at least one covering element includes a first outside surface having a first visual presentation and a second outside surface having a second visual presentation different from said first visual presentation.
7. (Original) The assembly of claim 6, wherein said assembly is foldable in a first folded condition such that only said first visible presentation of said at least one covering element is exposed and in a second folded condition such that only said second visible presentation of said at least one covering element is exposed.
8. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, ~~whereat~~ wherein at least one of said links has a central bent portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 8, further including at least one covering element selectively attached to ~~said~~ at least one of said links.

10. (Original) The assembly of claim 9, wherein said at least one covering element is made of a flexible material.

11. (Original) The assembly of claim 10, wherein said at least one covering element includes a first outside surface having a first visual presentation and a second outside surface having a second visual presentation different from said first visual presentation.

12. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein each of said ~~geared-ends~~ gears comprises ~~at least one~~ a spur gear.

13. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 12, wherein each of said pairs of ~~geared-ends~~ engaged gears are engaged by means of a linear gear.

14. (Original) The assembly of claim 13, wherein each of said pairs of said engaged ~~gear-ends~~ gears and said corresponding linear gears are retained within a hub element.

15. (Original) The assembly of claim 14, wherein said at least four links comprise an even number of links.